This newsletter is created and distributed by the Office of Library and Information Services

PARENTS



October 2001

Volume 2 Issue 1

Inside this Issue

Introduction

Parents Forum

Featured Books

Amazing Museum

Calendar

Priscilla Tremblay

VISTA Assistant **Editor**

(401) 222-5840

INTRODUCTION

As a VISTA Assistant to Melody Allen, I am pleased to join the *Mother Goose* Team to bring quality literacy programs to Rhode Island.

As a parent of two children, I know first hand of the struggle to juggle work and raising your children.

Taking time for the daily activities, stories, the library visits, a museum every so often, leaves a parent frazzled sometimes.

We bring you this newsletter in hopes of simplifying your schedule with notices of events in your local community and books to bring along.



As fall peaks, you as a parent may want to explore and learn with your children about the seasons and the upcoming winter. Why not use the science process skills from the *Mother Goose Asks "Why?"* sessions?

Communicate:

Encourage exploring the world around you. Gather leaves & pine cones. Visit an apple or pumpkin farm and gather

different sizes. Talk about what you found.

Finding Patterns & Relationships:

Observe with your child how things are the same and how they are different. You and your child are just like scientists; you observe all the time!

Observe

How things Change: Collect maple, cedar, oak leaves while still fresh. Look at the colors and shapes.

Sorting & Predicting

Predict which trees in your neighborhood will change and sort in what order they will change.

Asking Questions

What makes a tree evergreen? Why do some trees change faster than others? How does nature tell the tree what color to change to?

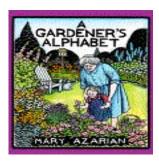
Design and Make Models Make a Leaf Scrapbook!

- 1. Collect at least 5 leaves from different trees.
- 2. Tape onto **5 inch x 8 inch** individual sheets of newspaper.
- 3. Make a small hole in the left corner of each paper (big enough to weave string to hold book together).

Experimenting

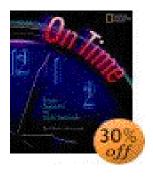
- 4. Tape lined paper to other side for taking notes on how your predictions worked out.
- 5 Take a walk outside now and have fun investigating!

Featured Books



A Gardener's Alphabet by Mary Azarian

Help your children expand their vegetable and flower garden vocabulary while enjoying the hand-colored woodcut illustrations. A greenhouse in winter, seeds of spring all lined up from A to Z.



On Time: From Seasons to Split Seconds by Gloria Skurzynski

Discuss with your child the causes of seasons, years, months and days. Discover how people through history have developed calendars and clocks to keep track of time.



Slater Mill

Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, RI



An Amazing way to teach your child the processing of natural fibers into clothes From the farm to the factory, the Slater Mill Museum shows what life in Rhode Island used to be like.

Books to Bring Along:



Charlie Needs A Cloak

by Tommie de Paola

Take your child through the process of cleaning and spinning wool into woolen thread and yarn.



Grandpa Bear's Fantastic Scarf by Gillian Heal

Explore with your child basic weaving skills and how thread and yarns can be woven into fabric which will help keep them warm.



November 1st to 30th, 2001

Providence Children's Museum 100 South Street, Providence, RI Preschool Friday 8 week series Harvest Activities for ages 3-5. To Register, Call (401)273-KIDS

Museum of Natural History and Planetarium

Roger Williams Park, Providence, RI Blastoff! **Saturdays** at 1:30 pm Planetarium Show for ages K-3.

To Register; Call (401) 785-9457

Ask your local library for information on free passes to museums!



November 11-17, 2001 Storyteller "Strong Woman"

performs with drums and stories at the Cranston Knightsville Branch.

Call 401-943-9080 for info

Mother Goose Asks "Why?" was developed by the Vermont Center for the Book in conjunction with the Montshire Museum of Science and the Vermont Department of Libraries.

.Substantial funding is provided by a grant from the National Science Foundation, with local support from the Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Providence Children's Museum, the Providence Public Library, the Newport Public Library, the Cranston Public Library, and CHILDSPAN.

Presented in partnership with Rhode Island READS, a project of the Public Education Fund, and the Corporation for National and Community Service.